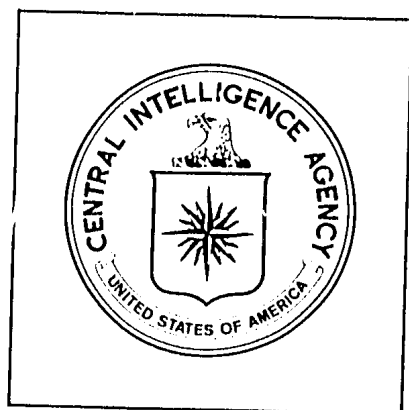


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## STAFF NOTES:

# Western Europe Canada International Organizations

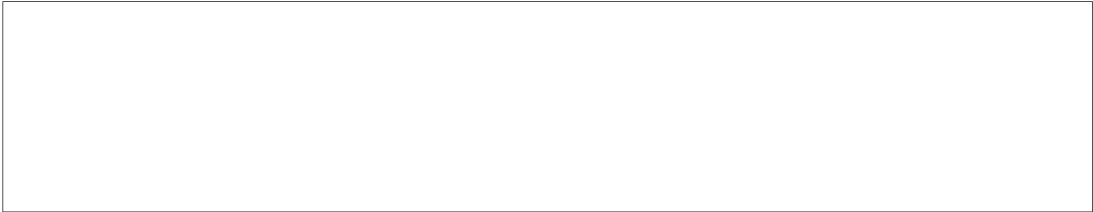
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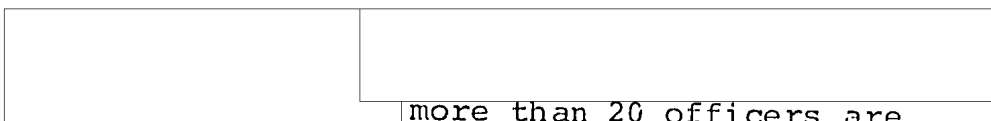
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Spanish Authorities Continue Crackdown on  
Military Officers

Spanish authorities are moving to assure their continued control over the transition to the post-Franco period.

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more than 20 officers are now being detained because of their membership in a political group known as the Democratic Military Union. Some of the officers have been accused of sedition--defined as an unauthorized gathering of more than four officers--and illegal association.

The Democratic Military Union is reportedly composed of junior officers up to the rank of major. Its objectives include:

- the transfer of the reins of government to Prince Juan Carlos;
- the early integration of Spain into Western military and economic organizations;
- the establishment of a pluralist party democracy, possibly including a full spectrum of parties from the Communists to the Falangists;
- the achievement of more flexibility and efficiency in the armed forces.



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[redacted] The group--which has been variously linked by the press to the illegal Communist-dominated Democratic Junta, the fledgling political associations, and the Portuguese Armed Forces Movement--reportedly has no formal connections with political organizations outside the military. Individual contacts may exist, however, and army staff officers have indicated to the US Defense Attache that the officers will probably be charged with having material published by the Democratic Junta in their possession.

Events in Portugal have further stiffened traditional Spanish resistance to involvement by the military in politics. Last January when political associations were legalized, the ministers of the three armed services issued a pointed warning to the military against political activity. [redacted]

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Spanish authorities have apparently not reached a decision on how to deal with the detained officers. Turning them over to military tribunals for disciplinary action could widen the gap in the armed forces between military officers who support Franco's conservative policies and those who would like to see at least some movement toward more democracy. A preferable alternative for the authorities might be summary dismissals of the Union's ringleaders from the service.

Meanwhile, civilian forces striving to liberalize the Spanish regime appear to have suffered another setback as right-wing forces opposed to change reassert themselves. Last week the parliamentary election scheduled for this fall was postponed until the spring of 1976. Officially the delay was attributed to the burden of parliamentary business but the move seems to have been orchestrated by right-wingers in Franco's National Movement as part of a larger strategy to insure full control in the post-Franco transition period. The success of the faction has increased the influence of Solis Ruiz who has emerged as leader of the regime supporters since he was reappointed minister-secretary general of the National Movement in June.

Implicit in Prime Minister Arias' program of political liberalization is an anticipated change in the complexion of the next parliament which in turn will affect the composition of the Council of the Realm. The delay in electing the parliament will give Franco the opportunity to appoint a new president for the Council of the Realm, from nominations submitted by the present Franco-dominated Council. The president of the council serves a six-year term and will have a key role during the transition period after Franco

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dies or becomes incapacitated. The incumbent, Rodriguez de Valcarcel, who is close to Franco and who has acquired tremendous prestige during his tenure, is eligible for reappointment.

The postponement gives the new political associations a better chance to organize, but it will also allow the regime more time to influence the way in which the associations will participate in future elections. No provision has yet been made for financing the political associations or assuring them access to the media facilities of the National Movement.

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Canada and East Germany Agree on Diplomatic  
Relations and Freer Movement of People

East Germany has apparently agreed to Canada's demands to relax some restrictions on the movement of people between the two countries as the price for establishing diplomatic relations.

Ottawa recognized East Berlin in December 1972 but refused full diplomatic relations until the East German regime agreed to allow some of its citizens to be reunited with relatives in Canada. Lengthy negotiations were capped by the meeting between Prime Minister Trudeau and East German party boss Honecker at the Helsinki summit when the final details were ironed out. Prime Minister Trudeau has been quoted in the press as saying that the agreement will:

- allow East Germans to be reunited with relatives in Canada either as immigrants or visitors;
- promote trade and tourism; and
- allow scientists, businessmen, journalists, and others to travel freely in each country.

For the time being, Canada's ambassador to Warsaw will also be accredited to East Berlin. There has been no indication whether the East Germans will send an ambassador

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to Ottawa or accredit their ambassador to Washington also to Ottawa. Until now Ottawa's contacts with East Berlin have been through their respective embassies in Warsaw.

While the East German regime may allow some progress to be made on reuniting families in order to demonstrate its desire for improved relations, it is highly doubtful that Canadian scientists, businessmen, and journalists will be allowed free travel in the GDR. As far as tourism is concerned, the tight control maintained by East Berlin will prevent a rapid increase in such travel within East Germany. The East German government is interested in expanding exports to the West and will probably place greatest emphasis on implementing the provisions of the agreement that apply to trade.

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Test of CSCE Yet to Come

The major theme stressed by Western leaders at the summit last week was that implementation of the provisions of the European security conference protocol will provide the only real test of the spirit of detente as expressed in Helsinki. In evaluating the value of the European security conference, West Europeans will focus their attention on two major areas-military security and the freer flow of people, ideas and information between East and West.

General Secretary Brezhnev stated that progress at the force reductions talks in Vienna is a "priority goal" of the Soviet Union. This sentiment, echoed by all the larger Western powers except France, should be put to the test this fall when the talks resume.

Allied representatives in Brussels have been trying to overcome the objections of some West Europeans to various aspects of the Western nuclear proposal in time to introduce it during this fall's negotiations. Although agreement has been reached on many problems, both West Germany and the United Kingdom are concerned about two key issues: limitations on allied armaments and the definition of a common ceiling for both NATO and Warsaw Pact forces in Central Europe.

The first and, perhaps, most visible test of the new accord will come when the Warsaw Pact gives advance notice of its military maneuvers this fall under the provisions of military-related, confidence-building measures. This week, NATO members agreed on a text concerning the notification of a series of exercises planned for September involving US, West German, Canadian and French forces. The Allied announcement is relatively

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detailed as it specifies the time, purpose, and area of the maneuvers, the units participating, and the number of troops involved. The Western powers will be watching closely to see if the Warsaw Pact states reciprocate with the same degree of specificity in their notification.

The Communist performance regarding the provisions for greater exchanges of peoples, ideas and information will also be watched closely. Implementation will be facilitated through bilateral East-West accords and the use of such existing multinational machinery as provided, for example, by the UN and international trade organizations.

Taking advantage of the Helsinki forum, West Germany and Poland concluded an agreement last week--long in the works--permitting some 120,000 persons of German descent living in Poland to emigrate in return for a West German loan and contribution to a Polish pension fund. French President Giscard announced his willingness in Helsinki to begin negotiations immediately on bilateral agreements in order to implement, and even extend, CSCE provisions.

The West anticipates significant commercial as well as political benefits to result from the accords. Western businessmen hope they will be allowed to set up offices in Moscow and to expedite transactions by dealing directly with factory managers instead of going through ministry officials.

The largely dormant UN Economic Commission for Europe is expected to play an active role in promoting cooperation in various fields, insofar as these relate to CSCE. The commission is already preparing a report on follow-up procedures for the CSCE, to include concrete suggestions for projects involving:

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- expansion of trade between East and West,
- economic planning and forecasting,
- regularized and detailed exchanges of information in the fields of science, technology and the environment,
- moves toward harmonization and standardization,
- joint research concerning environmental and energy problems,
- development of common projects in the energy, communications and transportation fields.

According to Chancellor Schmidt, the 35 participating nations are now morally committed to "let deeds follow words". The burden of implementation--particularly in the areas requiring increased exchanges--will fall primarily on the East. Although the commitments are entirely "voluntary," they still represent "a moral commitment to be ignored at our mutual peril," as expressed by Prime Minister Wilson. The West, as well as the neutral states, will undoubtedly use this criterion when the first in a series of follow-up meetings to monitor progress in implementing the accords is held in Belgrade in 1977.

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